

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2020, NINETY-THIRD MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS, Friday, December 4, 2020 10:00 AM

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners met pursuant to Kansas Statutes Annotated Chapter 19, Article 2, Section 18 in due and regular session with open doors.

Commissioner Tom Moody served as the presiding officer.

Commissioners Bruce Blair and Jeremy Johnson were in attendance via Zoom.

County Clerk Don Pyle was seated with the Board.

County Counselor Jim Emerson was present via Zoom.

Commissioner Moody led the pledge of allegiance.

**UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING
CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion (20-475) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the December 1, 2020 minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed and the consent agenda was approved.

SIGNING OF MOTIONS

The County Clerk presented the following motions for Commissioners' signatures:

Motion 20	474	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the November 24, 2020 minutes
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**UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS
PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD
MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH**

Item One: Deputy County Health Officer Dr. Linda Bean handed out the Crawford County Gating Criteria updated 12/4/2020. She discussed the Weekly Incidence Rate, Weekly Percent Positive, Age Breakdown, Trend in Incidence Rate, Number in Isolation

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

and Hospital Capacity. She also addressed the total deaths in Crawford County and neighboring counties' deaths that took place in Crawford County health care facilities. Dr. Bean stated that there are currently 8 long-term care facilities actively dealing with COVID. She discussed testing and the challenges with contact tracing. She stated that the overall community impact is high. Dr. Bean went through the School Gating Criteria K-12. County Health Officer Dr. Tim Stebbins was present via Zoom. He stated that it has been an active week and addressed the new CDC guidelines regarding quarantine requirements and stated that information on the health department's plan for the new guidelines will be announced today. He explained the health department's plans. Dr. Stebbins also addressed the Kansas State High School Activities Association's requirements and guidance relating to winter sports and spectators. He stated that the Health Officials put out a letter supporting KSHSAA's decision and also made recommendations on the fine arts programs in the letter. He stated that in the letter they also detailed their support of in person learning for schools and the reasons why. Dr. Stebbins stated that the health officials are also working with the State of Kansas and a group called Rural Health that are setting up mobile testing centers. He explained that there is a mobile testing unit at PSU and there will be one or two more placed in the community to allow for testing of citizens. He explained the type of testing that will be used. He stated that the group will put out a media release on how and when they will be getting started. Dr. Stebbins stated that the health officials have initiated checks on high-risk businesses to begin the process of the enforcement piece. He stated that hopefully beginning Monday, letters will go out to the businesses which will include the Governor's Order, the County Health Order, the statute related to public nuisance and criminal activity and a letter stating that they need to comply or the next check could result in being turned over to the county prosecutor. Dr. Stebbins addressed Statute 65-119 to limit gatherings as Health Officers and Health Board.

County Counselor Jim Emerson addressed the Commissioners via Zoom and updated the Commissioners on status of the enforcement order and addressed KSA 21-6204 Maintaining a Public Nuisance. He explained the path that the county will use for enforcement. Commissioner Moody addressed sending letters to the businesses and stated he has received calls about Wal-Mart. Dr. Stebbins stated that he has visited both Wal-Mart locations and did not see any employees that were not properly masked but will visit those businesses again. He spoke about patrons wearing masks into the businesses and then removing them once inside the building. Dr. Bean stated that the businesses' primary responsibility is to ensure their staff is wearing masks and they do encourage signs stating masks required but that does not mean the business will be in trouble if the patrons are not wearing masks. Commissioner Blair addressed KSHSAA changing their guidelines and Dr. Stebbins informed the Commissioners what could take place if this should happen. Commissioner Johnson asked about testing of out of county residents and out of state residents and County Health Director Janis Goedeke stated that anybody can be tested in the Mobile Testing Unit or the Rural Health Testing Centers.

Mr. Pyle read an email received from a business owner addressing hearing issues and masks and Dr. Bean gave suggestions on what to do to help with this issue and stated that the health officials are willing to work with any business with concerns and issues with mitigation. Dr. Bean and Dr. Stebbins addressed businesses and complaints and how it will be handled and the main follow up is just communication. Dr. Stebbins stated he

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

received a question about the vaccination plan for our region and stated that he has no information on this. Ms. Goedeke stated that health care workers and long-term care facilities will be first to receive that vaccination and it could possibly be available by Christmas. Dr. Stebbins stated that as soon as information is available on the vaccine it will be made known to the Commissioners and to the community through our social media. Ms. Goedeke stated that distribution will be very rapid as the vaccine will be on ice. She also stated that the State will send guidelines on who will get the vaccine after health care workers and long-term care facilities. Dr. Stebbins gave information on where the vaccines will be available and stated that there are 2 vaccines and both are 2 dose vaccines approximately 28 days apart. Public Information Officer Samantha Garrett spoke about the Community Survey and stated that she has received approximately 600 responses and would like the Commissioners and Health officers to review the comments and possibly discuss next Friday. Ms. Garrett and Dr. Stebbins discussed information that will be available on the Pittsburg Cable Channel 6 news.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

Item One: Public Hearing to vacate platted Alleys in the Western Coal & Mining Company's Subdivision of the W1/2 NW1/4 Section 5, Township 29, Range 25. County Clerk Don Pyle presented a map of the area and Mr. Emerson explained where the requested alleys are located.

On motion (20-476) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to open the Public Hearing to vacate platted Alleys in the Western Coal & Mining Company's Subdivision of the W1/2 NW1/4 Section 5, Township 29, Range 25.
Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

There was no one present for public comment.

On motion (20-477) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to close the Public Hearing to vacate platted Alleys in the Western Coal & Mining Company's Subdivision of the W1/2 NW1/4 Section 5, Township 29, Range 25.
Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Emerson stated that he will present the Resolution on vacating the alleys on Tuesday.

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Don Pyle discussed 2020 Budget Amendments and stated that he is working with the Fire Districts on their amendments. He also addressed an amendment for the 2020 Health Department Budget. He spoke about a few other budgets that would need amendments. He stated that he will have the amendments ready to present on Tuesday.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Commissioner Blair stated that he would like information to go out to the businesses about the mask mandate guidelines. He said that he just wants clarity so the businesses can fully understand what the county's expectations are. Ms. Garrett stated that she can get that information out to the businesses and also to the local city mayors. Ms. Goedeke stated she has a spreadsheet of the local businesses and will be working with the Chamber of Commerce also and she stated that the guidelines will be specific about what the health officers' want. Commissioner Blair stated that the businesses also want information about the enforcement.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: December 8, 2020 – Ms. May Smith, Zoning Administrator presenting a Motion of Recommendation for a new subdivision.

Item Two: December 8, 2020 – Ms. Brooke Powell, Executive Director, Safehouse Crisis Center, regarding Safehouse ESG-CV2 Application.

Item Three: December 8, 2020 – 1:00 PM Fence Viewing located in Section 3, Township 29, Range 24. All three Commissioners may be in attendance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

On motion (20-478) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to recess the open session for a period of 5 minutes and to reconvene at 11:05 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The meeting reconvened at 11:04 AM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: Commissioner Johnson requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney Client Relationship.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

On motion (20-479) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 10 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney Client Relationship to discuss Early Retirement and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:05 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:05 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:15 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Two: Commissioner Johnson requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney Client Relationship.

On motion (20-480) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney Client Relationship to discuss the Noxious Weed Department and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:30 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:15 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:25 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Three: Commissioner Johnson requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (20-481) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 10 minutes to discuss the Public Information Officer position under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Public Information Officer Samantha Garrett and to reconvene by 11:35 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:25 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:35 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Item One: Adjournment

On the motion of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to adjourn the [December 4, 2020](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:36 AM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

In Testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed my official seal and submitted these minutes for the approval of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners.

Don Pyle

County Clerk

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This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.

[Taken by BKW 12/4/2020 11:36 AM/amended BKW 12/7/2020 1:30 PM.](#)